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Minden Hills plans to raise taxes nearly 9%

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

While it might be a move of political self-preservation to offer residents a low tax increase heading into an election year, Minden Hills council has no such plans.

Councillors discussed the 2018 draft budget during a Jan. 11 meeting. In what was the second round of budget discussions, draft documentation showed the total tax levy at just more than \$8 million, a jump of nearly \$710,000 from 2017. This would equate to a tax levy increase of 9.73 per cent.

"The big elephants in the room are obviously roads and environment," said Mayor Brent Devolin.

The roads department budget constitutes nearly half of the total tax levy, at approximately \$3.6 million. This represents a reduction of nearly \$1 million from the first draft budget, with roads superintendent Travis Wilson reducing expenditures for culvert replacements and materials, as well as taking some projects off the table for the year.

Only engineering work will be done for a reconstruction of IGA Road, for example. No construction will take place in 2018.

see TAX page 2



Community partnership serves up young chefs

Archie Stouffer Elementary School student Emma Thompson started the evening off with bacon-wrapped appetizers at the Jan. 10 graduation of the Grade 8 students' eight-week cooking program. Together with volunteers from the Minden Community Food Hub, students learned to plan and budget for meals, read ingredient lists, follow recipes, understand nutrition labels and cook, plate, and serve meals to their excited families. See story on page 4./SUE TIFFIN Staff

Carillion Canada not collapsing, rep says

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

While Carillion PLC, the British base of the multinational company responsible for the maintenance of provincial highways 35 and 118 through Haliburton County is collapsing, a spokesperson for Carillion Canada says the

Canadian arm of the company is not being liquidated.

Based in the United Kingdom, Carillion employs 43,000 people worldwide; 20,000 in the U.K. and another 23,000 abroad, including in Canada, the Middle East and the Caribbean. Carillion Canada employs about 6,000 people.

According to a story in the *Toronto Star* earlier this week, "Carillion has been struggling to reorganize for the past six months amid debts of about 900 million pounds (\$1.54 billion) and a pension deficit of 590 million pounds. Carillion's share price has plunged 70 per cent in the last six months."

see PROVINCE page 2



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Tax increase necessary, councillors say

from page 1

There was also a reduction in the amount budgeted for roadside brushing. Because some township roads have not been brushed in many years, Wilson told councillors that currently there are substantial brushing costs, since thick brush means it takes longer for the work to be completed. Years down the road, when the township is caught up on its brushing, these costs should decrease, Wilson said.

\$3.68 million for roads would represent an increase of more than \$250,000, up from approximately \$3.43 million spent in the department in 2017.

An increase of more than \$300,000 in the property and environmental operations budget would see total expenditures in that department increase from less than \$700,000 in 2017 to more than \$1 million.

Most of that increase is related to the Scotch Line landfill. In 2017, Minden Hills township received two clean-up orders from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change. One concerned a high amount of leachate on the property, the other the volume and improper storage of hazardous household waste.

The township has been asked to monitor leachate seeps on the property and \$100,000 had been budgeted to remediate two main seeps. That process involves excavating and refilling seep areas. Money was also budgeted for increased bulldozer and chipping work, bin repairs, driveway construction and the installation of video cameras at the site.

Provincially mandated wage increases also mean that wage costs at the township's landfills will increase by approximately \$65,000 for the year.

Councillors decided to forego the installation of cameras. Councillor Jean Neville asked how much illegal dumping took place at the Scotch Line facility.

"How much stuff is left at the gate?" Neville asked.

"It's very minimal," property and environmental operations manager Ivan Ingram said. "It's very seldom it happens."

Ingram said the worst site for illegal dumping was actually the Little Gull landfill, during the summer months.

The camera installation would have cost about \$15,000. Councillors also decided to cut the \$100,000 allotted for dealing with the leachate seeps down to \$50,000. The more severe of two seeps will be dealt with in 2018, with remediation of the other still planned for 2019. Some reduction in monies allotted for bin repair and replacement resulted in a total of \$71,000 being carved from the department's draft budget, an amount representing one per cent of the tax levy, thereby dropping the overall levy increase to 8.73 per cent.

"It's still going to be a very high number, but it does not come as a surprise," Devolin said. Since he was elected in 2014, Devolin has said repeatedly that with increasing demands on municipalities, and with little help available from upper levels of government, it would likely become a challenge to keep tax increases in Minden Hills in the single digits, if the township is to adequately provide all the services it is expected to provide.

Devolin said that offering taxpayers a palatable increase in an election year might be a politically savvy move, but that he didn't believe council had that luxury.

"I think that's been done in the past, and I think we're paying the price for it," he said.

Councillor Pam Sayne was concerned the increase was too large, and would push

marginalized residents of the township further toward a financial brink.

Since property taxes are based on assessed property value, waterfront property taxes, on the whole, will go up in greater amounts than taxes on non-waterfront properties. Sayne said that while there is an assumption that those living on lakes are more affluent, she said this is not always the case, and that many year-round waterfront residents are seniors living on fixed incomes.

"I don't feel sorry for people living on a lake, and I'm one of them," said Neville, adding that living on waterfront is a choice. "Some people's cellphone and Bell bills are higher per month than their taxes."

Haliburton County's municipalities have some of the lowest property taxes in the province. According to a December report from auditing firm KPMG, in 2017, 57 per cent of Minden Hills residents paid less than \$1,000 in property taxes for the year.

"It's just another year, whether it be an election year or not," said Deputy Mayor Cheryl Murdoch. Murdoch said the days of funding from upper levels of government were largely gone, and that she too lives on waterfront, which is a choice.

"I don't find this presentation today to be too upsetting," she said.

Councillor Lisa Schell said she's received more calls regarding the state of the township's roads in the past two years than she ever had previously.

Schell said she was not happy about the tax increase, since she too is a taxpayer, but felt it was required.

"To pass a small tax increase in an election year, I feel is irresponsible," Schell said.

"At an emotional level, do I have the

same concerns as Councillor Sayne? I do," said Devolin. The mayor added it was about balance, and that council had at least managed to shrink the increase by a percentage point.

Minden Hills' OPP bill for 2018 is \$1.9 million. This year marks the fourth year of a five-year phase-in of a new billing formula that weights seasonal residences as households. Therefore, under the formula, communities with large seasonal populations have seen their policing bills increase substantially.

Since 2012, Minden Hills' OPP costs have increased by 63 per cent; its roads costs 64 per cent; and costs for property and environmental operations by 63 per cent.

There will be a net transfer of approximately \$1.6 million out of reserves for the year, most of that money going toward the new fire hall, which is expected to be completed in March. The drawdown will take the municipality's reserves from about \$8.8 million at the end of 2017, to about \$7.2 million by the end of 2018.

"We can't keep relying on reserves to prop up budgets," said treasurer and chief administrative officer Lorrie Blanchard.

Township staff are scheduled for a 1.75 per cent wage increase. Water and sewer rates will not increase in 2018.

Council will discuss the budget for the third time at a Feb. 8 meeting. A public meeting on the budget is scheduled for Feb. 22, with councillors reviewing and discussing comments from that public meeting during a regular council meeting the same day. The budget is scheduled to be passed in March.

It's just another year,
whether it be an election
year or not.

— DEPUTY MAYOR CHERYL MURDOCH

Province expects uninterrupted winter road maintenance

from page 1

After failed attempts to attain a British government bailout, the company is liquidating its assets.

However, a spokesperson for Carillion Canada told the paper the Canadian arm of the company is continuing to operate.

"On Jan. 15, 2018, Carillion PLC announced that it has been unable to achieve a restructuring and as a result Carillion PLC and certain subsidiaries have been placed into compulsory liquidation," reads an email from Cody Johnstone, assistant communications manager for Carillion Canada.

"However, Carillion's Canadian operations are not in liquidation and continue uninterrupted. Our employees, subcontractors and suppliers in Canada continue to be paid and we remain committed to delivering safe, quality services for our clients. Our Canadian leadership is currently assessing the situation and working with stakeholders to ensure continuity of operations."

Staff with the Ontario Ministry of Transportation have been meeting with Carillion representatives and ministry communications staff told the paper the ministry is committed to making sure highways remain clear.

"The Ministry of Transportation has met with Carillion Canada today [Jan. 15] and they have advised us that winter maintenance services are continuing uninterrupted at this time," reads an email from Lara Cantin, regional issues and media adviser for the MTO's northeastern region.

"Regardless, MTO is continuing to look at all of its options should this situation change. We will be meeting with Carillion Canada throughout this week and we will continue to provide updates to the travelling public as they become available."

After years of complaints about dangerous winter highway conditions, the province announced last fall it was terminating a 12-year contract with Carillion for the Huntsville district. That contract began in 2012.

The company is scheduled to continue maintenance until Sept. 1 of this year, when a new, seven-year contract will begin with Muskoka-based Fowler Construction.

Fowler had previously held the contract for the area, subcontracting snow removal services to local companies.

Regardless of what unfolds with Carillion, Cantin indicated the ministry will ensure highways are plowed.

"The safety of the travelling public in Ontario is our highest priority," she wrote. "We are actively exploring options to make sure Ontarians will continue to receive the winter maintenance that they both expect and deserve – regardless of what is happening overseas with Carillion U.K."

Carillion was fined \$900,000 in 2015 for shoddy clearing of the QEW following two snowstorms.

In 2016, it was fined \$80,000 for depositing waste on a Muskoka property that was not a ministry-approved waste disposal site.



Realtors give to Places for People

Local realtors present board members from Places for People with a cheque for \$5,000. Local realtors, who belong to The Lakelands Association of Realtors, which includes agents in Haliburton, Muskoka and Orillia, pay board dues, a part of which is apportioned for charitable causes. Places for People is a Haliburton County-based affordable housing organization, currently working on a property in Cardiff. /CHAD INGRAM Staff

New equipment to benefit residents' bones

Haliburton Highlands Health Services is pleased to announce the availability of a new diagnostic service available to area physicians and their patients – bone mineral densitometry (BMD). Bone densitometry is a test, like an X-ray, that quickly and accurately measures bone density. It can be used as a baseline study, to monitor those who are at high risk of developing osteoporosis and to monitor the effectiveness of treatment post diagnosis.

"I'm thrilled that we're now able to offer bone densitometry services within Haliburton County, so that residents no longer have to drive out of town for this service", says HHHS president and chief executive officer Carolyn Plummer. "As we're growing as a rural health hub, this is another opportu-

nity to increase access to more services locally."

The purchase of this equipment was made possible through the fundraising efforts of the HHHS Foundation, which raised funds for the equipment from mid-2016 through 2017.

"The generosity of donors throughout the Haliburton Highlands, and beyond, is demonstrated again in this successful fundraising effort, providing \$175,000 for this important diagnostic equipment," said Lisa Tompkins, executive director of the HHHS Foundation.

The bone densitometry equipment is in place at the Minden hospital site, and will be available to patients through physician referrals, beginning Jan. 16.

Submitted by HHHS



Members of Haliburton Highlands Health Services, its board and the Foundation celebrate the purchase of the bone mineral densitometry machine. The machine is in place at the Minden hospital and will be available to patients through physician referral. /Photo submitted

Police investigating break-ins in Minden

The Haliburton Highlands Ontario Provincial Police are investigating two break and enters in Minden Hills.

On Dec. 13, at approximately 8:54 a.m., members from the Haliburton Highlands OPP received a report of a break and enter at the Minden United Church on Newcastle Street in Minden Hills.

The investigation, thus far, has revealed that sometime between Dec. 12, at 8 a.m. and Dec. 13, at 8:10 a.m., an unknown person(s) forced entry into the church and stole a quantity of cash and a 50-inch Sharp television.

On Jan. 10, at approximately 7:19 a.m., members from the Haliburton Highlands OPP received a report of a break and enter at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena on Parkside Street in Minden Hills.

The investigation, thus far, has revealed sometime during the overnight hours on Jan. 9 an unknown person(s) forced entry into the arena and stole a quantity of cash and caused significant damage inside the building.

The Haliburton Highlands OPP is continuing to investigate and is seeking assistance from the public. If anyone has any information regarding these investigations, they are being asked to contact the Haliburton Highlands OPP at 1-888-310-1122.

Should you wish to remain anonymous, you may call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), or submit a tip online at www.khcs.ca where you may be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$2,000.

Submitted by the OPP

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

PUBLIC WELCOME

Jan 25 - 9:00 am, combined COTW/Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

Jan 25 – 3:30 pm, Special Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit www.mindenhills.ca

Please Note: Council meetings are reduced to one meeting during the month of January.

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(Staff reserves the right to deny participation).

NOTICE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Take notice there will be a Special Meeting of Council held on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 3:30pm in the Minden Hills Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

The purpose of the meeting will be for discussions regarding a Vision and Mission Statement, and SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats) as part of the creation of the **Economic Development Strategic Plan** for the Township of Minden Hills, which will include members of the internal working group and will be facilitated by Jay Amer of Amer and Associates, Consultant for the project.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Dawn Newhook, Clerk

Township of Minden Hills

705-286-1260 ext. 205

dnewhook@mindenhills.ca

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP #CSD 18-01 – Replacement of Kitchen Cabinets, Countertops and Bathroom Vanities –Minden Hills Community Centre. Submission deadline is Jan 31, 2018 by 12:00 noon. Visit www.mindenhills.ca/tenders/ for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

Keep anything that can burn a safe distance away from wood stoves and fireplaces. Allow ashes to cool before placing in metal container with a lid. Store the container outside of the home or garage.

ASES students celebrate culinary arts program graduation

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Dinner was served at the Minden Community Kitchen on Jan. 10, after a group of proud and excited Grade 8 students greeted guests – their equally enthusiastic parents and family.

The delicious dining experience marked the end of an eight-week program in which the 41 Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) students learned how to make a budget for groceries, prep food and plan nutritious meals with the help of community volunteers. To celebrate, the two groups of students (a different meal was served by the other half of the class the previous night) planned a menu, shopped for ingredients at Dollo's Foodland, worked magic in the kitchen and served the fruits (and chicken, potatoes, broccoli and pineapple cake) of their labour to their very willing taste testers.



The eight-week cooking program that brought Grade 8 students to the Minden Community Food Hub culminated in a graduation dinner that first required planning, budgeting and grocery shopping. Program participants Lillian Garbutt, Emma Thompson, Crystal Petry, Ben Pilcher, Ella Moynes and Ty Mills picked up the ingredients they needed for dessert at Minden Foodland. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Mrs. Moynes, Ella Moynes, Fiona Higgins and Arayah Sullivan make space for a meal served by Ty Mills at the Minden Community Food Hub on Jan. 10.

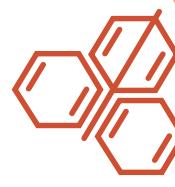


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“It’s been such a success,” said Marilynne Lesperance, of the Minden Community Food Centre, who encountered some students who struggled to identify celery, or said that they don’t usually have cucumbers at their house, causing her to say of the program, “There’s a need.”

Program graduate Olivia Johnson said the experience had been fun. “Before, I couldn’t cook Kraft Dinner on the stove – now I can, but we also learned how to make healthier options that everyone can enjoy,” she said. She was looking forward to using her newfound skills more at home, as was her family.

Lesperance thanked Monsanto and the Ontario Association Food Bank for their grant that helped fund the program, the Haliburton Bus Lines for transporting the students from school to kitchen, ASES staff and the volunteers who participated alongside the students.



Grade 8 students Brooke Stover, Emma Tidey, Courtney Semach and Tamara Bellefeuille plan ahead of a dinner celebrating their graduation from the eight-week cooking program on Jan. 9. /Submitted by Pat Thorne

Marketing plan includes website design, video series

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The to-do list in the county’s 2018 marketing plan includes a redesign of its #MyHaliburtonHighlands website, a video series featuring local personalities, and more.

The plan was first presented to the county’s tourism committee in November and tourism director Amanda Virtanen presented it to members of the Haliburton Highlands Tourism Stakeholders’ Committee at a December meeting.

During a Jan. 10 tourism committee meeting, member Sally Moore indicated that while it had been discussed informally, the stakeholders’ group did not yet have any formal feedback on the plan.

“There were comments made, but not to be the official message,” Moore said.

She also said that since the draft marketing plan contained mostly visuals, that some members who hadn’t heard Virtanen’s explanation were having a difficult time understanding it.

While the idea of deferring a recommendation to county council that the plan be approved was discussed, “it is a bit late,” said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt, who chairs the tourism committee.

Moffatt noted that would mean pushing approval of the plan back to February, and that tourism stakeholders, as well as any member of the public, had already had opportunity to hear the explanation.

“Asking a group of people who haven’t experienced the explanation of the plan if they like it . . . I’m not sure people are going

to have an opportunity to say anything that’s helpful,” she said.

“I just can’t imagine that there would be anything so glaring that we’d have to change the marketing plan,” said Dysart et al Deputy Mayor Andrea Roberts.

The plan includes an ad strategy that will see 50 per cent of advertising done through digital mediums, 30 per cent through print and broadcast and 20 per cent through partnerships, such as festivals, concerts and showcases.

It includes a focus on “Haliburton originals” – locations, businesses, events and items that are unique to Haliburton County, and that will be promoted to media through press releases and social media coverage. Think the “Haliburton dinner jacket,” or the Hawk Lake log chute, or local brewers.

There are also plans for a digital magazine and an “Ask a Local” video series.

“It’s kind of evolving as those conversations continue,” Virtanen said of the video series.

A request for proposals for a redesign of the county’s tourism website will go out, although maintenance of that website will continue to be done in-house.

Also planned are a limited edition line of the county’s #MyHaliburtonHighlands Roots clothing collection and representation at Rendezvous, a tourism event in Halifax with access to international markets.

The county also has an application in to the province’s Rural Economic Development (RED) program, for continued promotion of culinary attractions, including the creation of a “buy local” program, improved integration of local storytelling into the county’s tourism initiatives and better way-finding signage throughout the community.

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The Times

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Paying the piper

RESIDENTS OF THE Township of Minden Hills are likely in for a not unsubstantial property tax increase in 2018.

Councillors held their second round of budget discussions last week and, at the end of that conversation, had whittled a 9.73 per cent increase over the 2017 tax levy down to 8.73. With another round of budget talks and a public meeting scheduled, it is possible that increase will decrease further, though likely it will remain in its current neighbourhood.

While it may be politically sly to offer residents a small, palatable tax increase in an election year, the majority of Minden Hills councillors seem to believe that would be irresponsible. There are things that need to be paid for, particularly in the roads and property and environmental operations departments, and they seem prepared to have the township pay for them.

"This is looking after our affairs," is the way Mayor Brent Devolin put it during last week's meeting.

While whatever tax increase is eventually approved will undoubtedly seem too large to some, it will be better than an artificially low tax hike in an election year, followed by a double-digit spike the next.

When it comes to property tax increases in Haliburton County, the percentage is much scarier than the actual amount of money. Tax hikes sound worse than they actually are.

The county's four municipalities have some of the lowest property taxes in Ontario. A December report from Minden Hills' auditing firm KPMG shows that 57 per cent of the township's residents paid less than \$1,000 in property taxes for 2017.

Do the math and whatever the increase ends up being will likely be absorbable for most of us. That is not to say it will be for everybody. Councillor Pam Sayne said last week she was concerned about what the increase would mean for residents who are already marginalized. And because property taxes are based on assessed value,

those with more valuable properties, those typically being waterfront ones in the context of Haliburton County, see the biggest difference when it comes to the dollar amount on their tax bill. While it's a common assumption that those who live on the water are generally more affluent members of the population, as Sayne pointed out last week, many of them are seniors living on fixed incomes.

It is possible that the tax increase will have some political ramifications for members of the current council who run for re-election in October.

It's also clear that other residents are OK with it.

"I am in favour of the tax hike especially if it means road improvement and keeping our community great," one resident wrote in a social media post. "I love this town and want to see it grow. Growth and maintenance come at a cost. I don't have extra money to throw away but I feel it's a sacrifice that's needed to keep Minden beautiful and that makes people want to come here."

Devolin said last week that he's aware of squeezed municipal councils that are actually downgrading roads – reverting from hard-top to gravel – to mitigate the size of their budgets.

He said he didn't agree that was the way to proceed.

And those are the kinds of questions residents need to ask themselves. Do we want nicely paved streets with safe sight lines, or pot-hole-ridden roads with brush encroaching on them? Do we want a landfill that complies with provincial environmental regulations? Do we want a cultural centre with a revolving roster of exhibits, an updated arena, and state of the art playground equipment for our children and grandchildren?

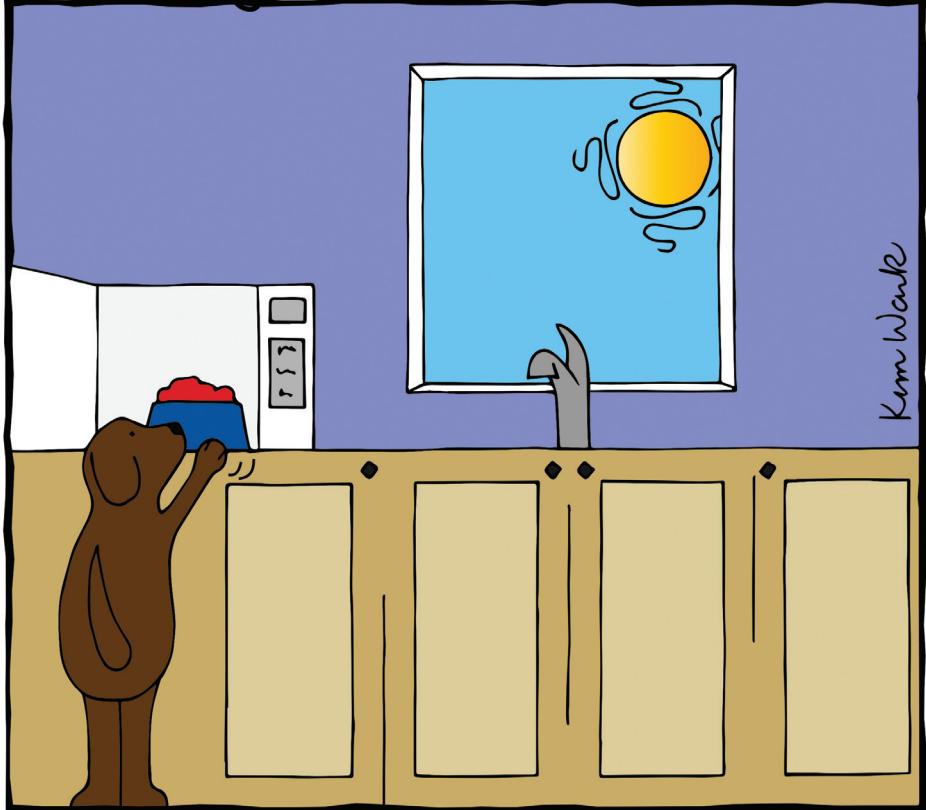
And don't forget the annual OPP bill, the cost for which is out of council's control. Minden Hills' OPP bill is now nearly \$2 million a year.

Property taxes are municipalities' only substantial revenue vehicle. We're going to get what we're willing to pay for.



CHAD INGRAM
Reporter

Kwarky



What dogs do with their raw food diet.

Off season hunts

IF YOU ARE a person who enjoys hunting – and particularly wingshooting – this is probably not your favourite time of year. Sure, there is the opportunity to hunt rabbits, which are fun, but they don't exactly fly.

Furthermore, the days are short, so hunting is limited. These are the times when cabin fever takes hold.

Luckily, I have found a solution. And it combines all the things I like about wingshooting – a good staunch point, winged creatures, and the opportunity to phone your friends and brag just a bit about your pets and your own shooting ability.

That's right; I have pioneered hunting house flies over pointing cats.

It works this way.

Every now and then, my brace of hunting cats will sit below and point at a house fly they got wind of. That's when I will get out my trusty elastic bands and approach the fly that is being pointed at. Then I will draw and release the band. If all goes well, I will hit the fly (I aim for the head), it will fall, and the cats will make an effort to retrieve it.

Not to brag, but I have killed them dead at as far as 10 feet. You don't want to have to go in and deal with a wounded one.

Unfortunately, I live in what is considered only marginal fly habitat. We see three or four a week. But the good news is there is, as yet, no limit or licence required.

As this is a new form of hunting, there are still a few little details to work out too. For instance, as far as I know, there are no good recipes for wild flies. Also, I'm still not sure how to distinguish the drakes from the hens, so I can't tell you what constitutes a trophy.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

If this catches on, I'm also thinking of starting an organization called FU or Flies Unlimited. That way, I can raise funds to create proper fly habitat, so that we will never run out of these magnificent creatures. I'd also like to ban the use of fly paper.

I might just pitch the idea of a magazine that focuses on house fly hunting called Pointing Cat Journal. Or, if that fails, at least create a TV show for those who are smitten by the sport.

Also, I have a number of tips to divulge that might be the basis of a book on fly hunting over pointing cats that is sure to be a classic. For instance, never draw your elastic to your eye. And, your wife's hair elastics will do in a pinch, so long as you don't tell her.

Did I mention I might have cabin fever?

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Play less nice

JUST AS I was beginning to think that 2018 is going to be a kinder and gentler year I turned on the television. Definitely a mistake.

Exploding on the screen was an advertisement for a new movie titled *Proud Mary*. Mary is a killer for hire and the commercial showed me an awesome display of booming handguns and rifles, plus fireballs and violent car crashes. The air was thick with lead as hundreds of rounds were fired in brief clips from the film.

Mercifully it was only a commercial and not the full film, which I will avoid.

I tuned then to the World Junior Hockey Championships and had the misfortune of catching a commercial break in the on-ice action. The commercial was a new Nike creation that shows a nice-guy Canadian hockey player taking his pre-game training run.

In 90 seconds the guy knocks over a row of garbage cans, passes a kid destroying a garage door with hockey stick and puck, terrorizes a motorist, knocks over some mannequins, smashes through a glass plate at the arena and elbows numerous players on ice.

As he skates down the ice he smiles widely, revealing the words Play Less Nice tattooed on his teeth.

The message to Canadian athletes, kids in particular, is that Canadians generally are gentle folks, who when they take to the field or the ice should not play nice.

Am I overreacting by finding the ad offensive and just plain stupid? Maybe I am, because I have heard no complaints or outcries about the ad. And violence has become so common that large parts of society have become immune to it.

Ask people on the street if they feel there is too much violence on television, in video games and other forms of electronic media and a large majority will say yes. Yet violence in media continues to increase.

There are stacks of studies showing that violence in media has become more graphic, more sadistic and more sexual in recent years. There also are hundreds of studies showing that there is a connection between media violence and aggressive behaviour among people, particularly children.

The American Psychiatric Association has reported that by age 18 the average U.S. youth will have seen 16,000 simulated murders and 200,000 acts of violence.

Research has shown that people who consume a lot of violent media tend to see the world as a war-like place where aggressive behaviour is normal. Also, the more violence we consume, the less sensitive we become to real-life violence, and less empathetic to the suffering of others.

Perhaps just as important, some people who consume a lot of violence through media begin to see the world as a much more hostile place than it actually is.

A quote in *Psychiatric Times* some years back keeps coming to mind.

"You turn on the television, and violence is there," Emanuel Tanay, a forensic psychiatrist for more than 50 years was quoted in the medical trade magazine. "You go to a movie, and violence is there. Reality is distorted. If you live in a fictional world, then the fictional world becomes your reality."

It is easy to begin identifying with the characters we see on screens. We see the characters solving their problems through violence, and find ourselves imitating them to solve our own.

So according to Nike if you are not achieving what you want to achieve by being a nice Canadian, then play less nice.

Americans play less nice and we see the results. The U.S. National Coalition Against Domestic Violence estimates that 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner.

Americans are 25 times more likely to be murdered with a gun than people in other developed countries.

Analysis of FBI data shows that 11,000 people in the U.S. were murdered with guns in 2016 compared with 9,600 in 2015, an increase of roughly 15 per cent.

The Nike commercial was created by Wieden and Kennedy, a large American advertising agency. It's an American message that belongs among Americans, not Canadians.

Unfortunately that's not likely because most of what Canadians view on television, video games, movies, and video sites like YouTube comes from America.

Email: shaman@vianet.ca

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letters to the editor

Looking for clothing stores

To the Editor,

What does everyone need 23 hours a day? Clothes! Minden is short of seven clothing stores. My Size, Brandon's, Jadek Sports, Marie Cox's, Sears, Paul Hopkins Gift Shop, and one

that was beside Stedman's is now the book store. 100 per cent true.

Simone Harrison
Minden

Imagine life as a solider

Legion br. 636



sticks snapping at a pull.

Those who watched with hoary eyes, saw two figures gleaming there; Hauptmann Kalte, colonel old, gaunt in the grey air.

Stiffly, tinkling spurs they moved, glassy-eyed, with glinting heel stabbing those who lingered there torn by screaming steel."

Can you imagine our soldiers in combat for our country, in weather as we are experiencing now? Think about it and next time you see a veteran, remember and thank him or her.

Come and support your Legion, so that we can continue to look after our veterans. It costs only \$60 to join, and \$45 to \$50 yearly to continue your membership. We have many events for you to attend, and many clubs within our branch to join. See Legion happenings in this publication, and others in the area. Keep warm!



Guenter Horst sent this icy image. Frozen water caught flowing over rock.

Have a thought,
comment or opinion
you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to
jenn@haliburtonpress.com

Outpouring of support for Toronto's homeless

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Kim Dennis speaks about the chain reaction of kindness – how one person's actions can foster inspiration in others to go forward and do good things.

She can see the power of that idea in the form of a mountain of jumbo-sized garbage bags filled with winter coats, blankets, hats and mitts – a mountain that she had only anticipated would be a hill when she posted a call-out for help from family and friends in Haliburton County to donate what they could to homeless people in Toronto trying to escape the winter deep freeze.

"I figured – I guaranteed – with the amount of family and friends I have, I'd be able to get 10 garbage bags full," said Dennis, who grew up in Minden and now lives in Haliburton. "But this is only from two days. In two days, 45 people came together and I have 40 garbage bags to pick up."

Dennis's post only spread, so that she was soon planning on taking her family's truck plus a trailer to Toronto to distribute the goods – a total of 85 bags and \$260 in coffee and food gift cards – to men and women seeking a warm escape at All Saints Community Church and nearby shelters. The city of

Toronto opened temporary emergency shelters, including the Moss Park armoury, and warming stations to help with the influx of people in need.

"I enjoy helping people, I love helping people," said Dennis. "I think nothing of it. It's really not a big deal to me, but to those people you're going to keep warm and save lives, it is a big deal."

Toronto street nurse Cathy Crowe told media this month that there are "600 men and women sleeping on floors, not even in real shelters." She said the outreach in support in getting the armoury open to help has been unprecedented. "I haven't seen anything this large in my career."

Dennis had seen the original call for help from her friend and former Haliburton resident Chelsea Teatro, who has been involved in outreach for the homeless living in Toronto. Teatro posted about the state of emergency caused by the frigid temperatures in December and earlier this month, when an influx of people who didn't always use shelters were needing refuge in order to survive. Teatro was planning on canvassing friends in Peterborough for help which inspired Dennis to do the same in this area.

"In Haliburton, people are so willing to help out," said Teatro. "That's what I love about small towns."

"I feel so blessed to live in Haliburton," said Dennis. "In Haliburton, if your house burns down, within a couple of days



People in need are a little warmer after an organization effort by Chelsea Teatro (left) and Kim Dennis brought a total of 85 large-sized garbage bags filled with hats, coats, mittens and blankets collected from Haliburton County residents to a church in Toronto sheltering more than 100 people a day from extreme cold. / Photo submitted

people will clothe you, feed you and help. We come together in bad situations here. Complete strangers will come together like family. People are messaging me that I've never met. It just goes to show how special our little town is. They don't have much either, but they're willing to help someone else."

Teatro was also surprised by the huge collection donated by residents in Haliburton County, and grateful for the work of Dennis, who drove from home to home with her two-year-old daughter to pick up the donations of clothes and Tim Hortons gift cards.

"I really encourage anyone who feels passionate about something and wants to help in some way or incite change, just go for it," wrote Teatro on social media. "There are so many people in the world who are willing to help. Some just don't know the best way to go about doing it, or don't think about it until it is brought up. You could be the one to really make a difference in a community or to those less fortunate. You could help inspire someone else to do the same."

People responding to the posts were positive, with Janene Greer commenting with similar thoughts to Teatro. "To think, had [Dennis] and Chelsea not posted about this, organized this, all those bags could've just sat in people's homes and basements and not gone to those who need it," she wrote.

Teatro said she was shocked to see people living on the streets when she moved to Toronto from Peterborough, and immediately began reaching out to help in whatever way she could.

"Some people feel safer on the streets than in the shelter," said Teatro. "Everyone deserves to be warm and have food in their belly."

She said she herself had lived through rough times in the past, and knew how easily homelessness could become the only option.

"It's close to my heart because that could have been me," she said. "That could have been me if I didn't have people supporting me, or burned my bridges along the way."

Teatro said she is writing notes to put with the donations that share messages of hope including, "it can get better," and "you're worthy of a great life."

"I'm looking forward to meeting some of the people we're helping, and giving them the stuff directly, and just talking to them," said Dennis.

"I want to show mercy to them," she said. "I want to help them, and let them know there is some hope out there."

When Dennis posted to the outreach group that she was headed to Toronto with her husband Ron to deliver the huge collection of donations to All Saints Church and a shelter formed at the Better Living Centre at the Exhibition Centre, she was taken aback when another volunteer reached out to offer her place to stay to help avoid the return trip in one day.

"That's how it works," she said. "It's a chain. When people see me posting the ad, the more people want to give. And maybe the more people see it, they'll want to do good."

Dennis thanked the community for their quick, generous and positive response, including Jessica Mann of Minden's New and Gently Used Facebook page and Sandi McElwain of Highland Street's Why Not Collect It for helping as drop-off centres during the project, and the Haliburton 4Cs and Lily Ann for donating extra supplies they had.

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For the love of fur

A taxidermy display at the Minden District Fur Harvesters' winter workshop.



Furs await judging during the 30th annual Minden District Fur Harvesters winter workshop.

These fisher skulls were part of a display by the MNRF.



Ted Nottage works on a fisher.



Rhys Brown models a hat and mittens by Kulmala Furs of Fenelon Falls.



Eric Bolton, left, demonstrates how he uses bones to clean sinews from the skin of a fisher during the Minden District Fur Harvesters' annual winter workshop at the Minden Hills Community Centre on Jan. 14. This year marked the event's 30th anniversary. /CHAD INGRAM Staff



Ron Post was sharpening knives at the Minden District Fur Harvesters' annual winter workshop on Jan. 14.

Minden Agricultural Society invites all to AGM

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Everyone is welcome at the Minden Agricultural Society annual general meeting this weekend, whether they're interested in a membership, getting involved with the annual fair, or dinner and a catch-up on the society's finances and plans for the year.

Those plans include some exciting additions and changes to the 154th Haliburton County Fair, which this year takes place on June 9 at the Minden Fairgrounds. (The annual beef barbecue is planned for the night before, on June 8).

"It's going good, people on the board are really happy and excited," said Eric Casper, president of the Haliburton County Fair executive.

This year, the fair will include more animal events happening throughout the day, including an obstacle course program for Darby miniature horses. The mounted games will be back, and organizers are looking at rearranging the layout of the fair to put focus on some of the events involving horses. Additionally, a potential time change could see the fair running a little later into the day, with entertainment running until around 7 p.m. rather than 5 p.m. Casper said the board is implementing changes each year to the activities designed for children to keep the fair fresh for younger participants, and so although the scarecrow and chick-hatching programs

have been successful, this year organizers are considering an agricultural exhibition for students similar to a science fair.

In the past, the Haliburton County Fair struggled to find volunteers, but organizers stepped up to ensure it would continue. The date changed from August to June to allow participants the chance to come without the fair becoming overshadowed by larger fairs like those in Kinmount and the CNE in Toronto, and Casper said it makes for a unique event because of the earlier start.

"We don't have the crops, but we can celebrate the planting," he said of the June timing. Focus was also put on the animal shows rather than a midway, and the board has implemented creative ideas to keep interest in the traditional fair.

"If people want to step up to join the board, there are some positions open," said Casper. He said the board has eight members, more than the minimum needed, but also has room for a few more interested people wanting a position.

And regardless of whether or not anyone is interested in filling some of the spots on the board, Casper said there will be a need for "more bodies" to help at the fair this year. "Many hands make light work," he said. "We always have jobs for people to do."

The Minden Agricultural Society annual general meeting and Dinner takes place on Saturday, Jan. 20 at the Minden United Church. A social begins at 5 p.m., and dinner at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are available at Organic Times, the Minden Mercantile and Up River Trading Co. in Haliburton. For further information, call 705-286-6155 or 705-754-5752.

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SIRCH launching Ready for Retail

by DARREN LUM
Times Staff

The local retail sector is getting a shot in the arm from SIRCH Community Services with the launch of its latest program, Ready for Retail – Training for Excellence.

According to SIRCH, for two days a week from Feb. 5 to May 14, Ready for Retail participants will learn by doing. They will earn certifications (customer service, first aid/CPR and WHMIS) and be taught how to be ideal retail employees and then put what they learned into practice at the beginning of March when they will open and operate the Thrift Warehouse, located at 128 Mallard Rd., off of Industrial Park Road in Haliburton every Monday.

Typically the warehouse is closed Mondays, but for the duration of this program the 8,000-square-foot store will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Each day there will be giveaways, activities, discounts and "freebies."

Participants will learn skills related to the operation of the Thrift Warehouse, including taking inventory and accounting for donations, work related to the front of the store helping customers, and using the cash register. Everyone will rotate so that all the participants receive a thorough education for a well-rounded professional development.

Training co-ordinator Dianne Woodcock said the program is open to anyone 18 and older with an interest.

"They don't have to have experience or anything like that," she said. "It's for anybody that wants to improve their knowledge and perhaps improve their employment situation."

Potential program applicants will have a pre-screening interview to assess commitment of time and if he/she is able to fulfill duties associated with this learning experience.

SIRCH is a member of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce and learned local retailers need skilled retail

employees. This program hopes to meet the needs of employers by equipping potential employees with the required skills and experience for retail.

Ready for Retail follows the model of SIRCH's Cook It Up training, an annual food services training program.

"One of the great things about this and Cook it Up is that it does create a relationship, an ongoing interaction between the trainees and the public as well as the potential employer. That's a very exciting component to this and Cook it Up," Woodcock said.

From the Cook it Up program, SIRCH learned there are four components for success and have applied the same approach with this program by partnering with local businesses, promoting meaningful ongoing interaction between trainees and the public, emphasizing the attitude of gratitude and offering this program for free.

"Our community is amazing when it comes to helping the trainees practice their skills," said SIRCH executive director, Gena Robertson in a press release.

"We know that part of the phenomenal success of Cook It Up has been the interaction with the public in a 'real' restaurant. We wanted to create the same type of scenario with Ready for Retail – and Thrift Warehouse is the perfect place to practice."

Highlands retailers have been supportive about coming to

help during the preparation phase in February, Woodcock said.

"We've gone out to the retail community ... to get participation in terms of doing on-site training that maybe they come and facilitate perhaps a half an hour of what they feel is important to customer service, or have a job shadowing in their store. We've got a very positive response on that request from many of them," she said.

Woodcock hopes this program will foster a relationship between local businesses and the program participants.

This program is the result of a partnership between SIRCH, the John Howard Society of City of Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton, who funded the program, and the Fleming CREW Employment Program for classroom training.

Anyone interested in participating in the Ready for Retail training program can contact SIRCH at info@sirch.on.ca or 705-457-1742.

Transportation options can be discussed for anyone who requires it, Woodcock said.

At the heart of the program is the goal of helping employers hire local residents.

"The more skilled people that can be available obviously the better the opportunity for an employer to hire within," she said.

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Sebastian Renal took a break with his family after dinner to get creative at the Stone Soup Friends of the Rail Trail community gathering held Jan 10. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Stone Soup celebrates love for the Rail Trail

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

Lochlin's community centre was filled with warmth, live music, homemade soup and chili, storytelling, a fascination with horseradish and a shared love of the Haliburton County Rail Trail (HCRT) when a gathering of 40 guests hurried out of the freezing rain on the night of Jan. 10 and into the laid back spirit of community.

Stone Soup, the evening, was hosted by Friends of the Rail Trail (FoRT), with more than a dozen volunteers from FoRT or Toronto to Algonquin Greenway (TAG) coming together to cut roast beef in the kitchen, arrange a tempting dessert table for the three-course meal and set up a screen to share a short video about the beloved Otago Central Rail Trail in New Zealand, which Pamela Marsales, FoRT co-founder, said "overcame early skepticism to revitalize abandoned rail-

way towns, which are similar to Lochlin and Gelert on the HCRT."

The zealous telling of old folktale *Stone Soup* by Jim Blake and Fay Wilkinson, in which a traveller brings a community together to each make small contributions to what becomes a hearty pot of soup, was well-received by the audience and symbolized the collective outlook of the Friends of the Rail Trail.

"Great to see a strong collection of people who recognize the potential value of the trail as a cycling and hiking treasure," wrote attendee Russ Duhaime on the *Minden Times* Facebook page after the event.

Glasses of Haliburton Highlands Brewing beverages were raised amongst friends and neighbours to the music of Chadmire + Taylor – Chad Ingram, Tim Tofflemire and Hugh Taylor – before the evening wended down and guests headed for home by following the roads parallel to their Rail Trail.



Leopoldina Dobrzensky sits at the head of the table during the Friends of the Rail Trail Stone Soup dinner event held on Jan. 10 at the Lochlin hall. Guests enjoyed a warm meal, live music, a storytelling and a short film as part of the evening celebration the Haliburton County Rail Trail. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

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Lease Cash applies to select vehicles and value depends on model purchased: \$1,500 on new 2018 Spark (excl LS), Sonic, Malibu (excl L), Camaro (excl ZL1), Corvette, Volt, Equinox, Traverse, Silverado HD, Tahoe, Suburban, Express, City Express; \$2,000 on new 2018 Silverado LD Reg Cab, Colorado (excl 2SA); \$2,500 on new 2018 Trax, Silverado LD Double Cab; \$2,750 on new 2018 Silverado LD Crew Cab. GM Card Application Bonus applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Card or current Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Cardholders. GM Card Application Bonus credit value depends on model purchased: \$500 GM Card Bonus on new 2018 Sonic, Cruze, Malibu (excl 1VL), Camaro (excl ZL1), Volt, Equinox, Trax (excl 1SV); \$750 GM Card Bonus on new 2018 Impala, Corvette, Colorado (excl 2SA), Traverse, City Express, Express; \$1,000 GM Card Bonus on new 2018 Tahoe, Suburban, Silverado LD & HD. As part of the transaction, dealer may request documentation and contact General Motors of Canada Company (GM Canada) to verify eligibility. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Conditions and limitations apply. Void where prohibited. See Dealer for full program details. GM Canada reserves the right to amend or terminate offers for any reason in whole or in part at any time without prior notice. 2018 Silverado 1500 Double Cab Custom Lease: Lease based on a purchase price of \$46,425 for a 2018 Silverado Double Cab Custom Edition 4x4, includes \$3,870 CDA, \$2,000 Lease Cash Bonus and \$1,000 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Cardholders) (taxes included). Bi-weekly payment is \$185 for 48 months at 2.5% lease rate on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km, \$0.16 per excess kilometer, \$3,200 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is \$22,482. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$20,003. 2018 Colorado Z71 Crew Cab Lease: Lease based on a purchase price of \$41,285 for a 2018 Colorado Z71 Crew Cab, includes \$500 CDA, \$1,500 Lease Cash Bonus and \$750 GM card application bonus (this offer applies to individuals who have applied for the Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Card [GM card] and to current Scotiabank® GM® Visa® Cardholders) (taxes included). Bi-weekly payment is \$179 for 48 months at 2.5% lease rate on approved credit to qualified retail customers by GM Financial. Annual kilometer limit of 20,000 km, \$0.16 per excess kilometer, \$3,350 down payment required. Payment may vary depending on down payment trade. Total obligation is \$21,984. Taxes, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by dealer and region) are extra. Option to purchase at lease end is \$19,359. 2018 Silverado 1500 Double Cab Custom Edition Finance: Purchase financing rate of 0% for 72 months available on eligible new 2018 Silverado 1500 Double Cab Custom Edition. Example: \$40,000 financed at 0% nominal rate (0% APR) equals \$555.56 per month for 72 months. Cost of borrowing is \$0, with customers paying \$46 in RDP fees, for a total obligation of \$46,046. \$0 down payment required. Security deposit may be required. Offer available to qualified retail customers in Canada for vehicles financed and from between January 3 to January 31, 2018. Financing provided, on approved credit, by TD Auto Finance Services, Scotiabank® or RBC Royal Bank. Participating lenders are subject to change. Rates from other lenders will vary. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary. Includes \$1,700 freight and PDI, \$100 air conditioning charge (where applicable) Taxes, PPSA, license, insurance, registration and applicable fees, levies, duties and, except in Quebec, dealer fees (all of which may vary by region and dealer) are extra. Total Value consists of \$3,870 manufacturer-to-dealer (tax exclusive) delivery credit, \$1,000 manufacturer-to-consumer GM Card Application Bonus (offer applies to individuals who apply for a Scotiabank GM Visa Card [GM Card] or current GM Card cardholders) (tax inclusive) and \$2,100 manufacturer-to-dealer finance cash (tax exclusive). Dealers are free to set individual prices. Limited time financing offer which may not be combined with certain other offers. GM Canada may modify, extend or terminate offers in whole or in part at any time without notice. Conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. *Registered trademark of The Bank of Nova Scotia. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. For the latest information, visit us at chevrolet.ca, drop by your local Chevrolet Dealer, or call us at 1-800-GM-DRIVE. *Applies to oldest 15% of dealer inventory as of July 1, 2017. Valid July 1 – 31, 2017 on cash purchases of eligible 2017 model year vehicles from dealer inventory. Models receiving a 15% cash credit of MSRP include: Camaro (excludes ZL1), Colorado, Trax, Impala, Suburban, Tahoe. Models receiving a 20% cash credit of MSRP include: all Light Duty and Heavy Duty Silverado, Cruze Sedan, Cruze Hatch, City Express, Express, Malibu (excludes 1VL), Sonic, Equinox, Traverse. Models not eligible for this offer are: 2017 models: Spark, BOLT EV, VOLT, Corvette. All 2016 MY and 2018 MY vehicles. Not compatible with special lease and finance rates. Credit is tax exclusive and is calculated on vehicle MSRP, excluding any dealer-installed options. By selecting lease or finance offers, consumers are foregoing this cash credit which will result in higher effective cost of credit on their transaction. Dealer may sell for less. Offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives. Certain limitations or conditions apply. General Motors of Canada Company may modify, extend or terminate this offer in whole or in part, at any time without notice. Void where prohibited. See dealer for details. 11Vehicle user interface is a product of Apple and its terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible iPhone and data plan rates apply. 2Vehicle user interface is a product of Google and their terms and privacy statements apply. Requires compatible smartphone and data plan rates apply. 3Visit onstar.ca for vehicle availability, Services and connectivity vary by model and conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. Requires active OnStar service and data plan. Data plans provided by AT&T or its local service provider. Accessory Power must be active to use the Wi-Fi hotspot. 4 U.S. Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.safercar.gov). 5 Requires available 3.6L V6 engine. 6 Based on WardsAuto.com 2016 Small Pickup segment and latest competitive information available at time of printing. Excludes other GM models. 7 Requires available 3.6L V6 or 2.8L Duramax Turbo-Diesel engine. 8 Before you buy a vehicle or use it for trailering, carefully review the Trailering section of the Owner's Manual. The weight of passengers, cargo and options or accessories may reduce the amount you tow. **The 2-Year Scheduled Lube-Oil-Filter Maintenance Program provides eligible customers in Canada, who have purchased or leased a new eligible 2016 or 2017 MY Chevrolet (excluding Spark EV), with an AC Delco® oil and filter change, in accordance with the oil life monitoring system and the Owner's Manual, for 2 years or 48,000 km, whichever occurs first, with a limit of four (4) Lube-Oil-Filter services in total, performed at participating GM dealers. Fluid top offs, inspections, tire rotations, wheel alignments and balancing, etc. are not covered. This offer may not be redeemed for cash and may not be combined with certain other consumer incentives available on GM vehicles. General Motors of Canada Company reserves the right to amend or terminate this offer, in whole or in part, at any time without prior notice. Additional conditions and limitations apply. See dealer for details. ▲Whenever comes first. See dealer for details. Visit onstar.ca for coverage maps, details and system limitations. Service plan required. Available 4G LTE with Wi-Fi hotspot requires WPA2 compatible mobile device and data plan. Data plans provided by AT&T. Services vary by model, service plan, conditions as well as geographical and technical restrictions. OnStar with 4G LTE connectivity is available on select vehicle models and in select markets. Vehicle must be started or in accessory mode to access Wi-Fi. ©2018 General Motors of Canada Company. All rights reserved.

MH woman convicted of animal cruelty

A 48-year-old woman from Minden Hills has been convicted of animal cruelty under the Ontario SPCA Act following an investigation that led to the removal of four horses in her care.

On Jan. 4, 2018, Shauna Hie was convicted in a Kawartha Lakes Provincial Offences Court of permitting distress to an animal. She was sentenced to 10-year prohibition on owning or caring for any equine animals and was ordered to pay \$2,000 in restitution to the Ontario SPCA.

On March 2, 2017, Ontario SPCA of-

ficers attended a residence in Minden Hills after receiving a concern about the welfare of horses on the property. Officers observed four horses confined to a small, fenced area without any access to water, hay or other feed. Officers noted that the horses appeared thin and that the hip bones of one horse were clearly visible, protruding from underneath a blanket the horse was wearing.

A veterinary examination determined all of the horses were in poor body condition, with one considered emaciated. They were also found to be infested with lice and suffering

from untreated wounds and poor hoof care. At the recommendation of the veterinarian, the horses were removed by the Ontario SPCA in order to provide them with the necessary care and treatment required.

The horses were surrendered into the care of the Ontario SPCA and, after being returned to good health, three have since found loving homes. A remaining horse and her foal, born in the care of the Ontario SPCA, will soon be available for adoption.

“With resources available to help people who are unable to care for their pets, there re-

ally is no excuse when it comes to neglecting to care for your animals,” says Alison Green, senior inspector, Ontario SPCA. “There will be consequences under the law if you fail to provide appropriate care for your animals or if you fail to take steps to alleviate an animal’s suffering.”

To report animal cruelty, call the Ontario SPCA’s province-wide dispatch centre at 310-SPCA (7722).

Submitted by the Ontario SPCA

Increased demand reported by heat charities

by JENN WATT
Editor

The traditional Canadian winter that hit the Highlands early and has persisted with nose-stickingly cold temperatures for much of January has kept demand steady at the county's two heat-based charities, Heat Bank Haliburton County and Fuel for Warmth.

At the heat bank, co-ordinator Tina Jackson said 26 intakes were done in December for people with heat or hydro-related crises, compared to 15 done in December of 2016.

Fuel For Warmth had a similar start to the chilly season.

“So far this winter, we are experiencing an increase in demand for our services of about 10 per cent over the same period last year,” wrote Lorne McNeil, treasurer of Fuel for

Warmth, in an email to the *Times*.

Requests started earlier than usual, McNeil said, in the first week of November.

The Heat Bank similarly saw requests earlier, which makes organizer John Teljeur think they'll get hit with another wave of calls at the end of this month as fuel runs low.

“We're still getting distress calls from people who are running lower than they normally would. We're seeing a lot of new people that we've never dealt with before who normally would have enough fuel or wood to get through the winter,” Teljeur said.

The heat bank has wood stored up at depots around the county and at this point Teljeur said they aren't concerned about firewood.

“Wood, we're going to be fine. Fuel wise, we're always looking for additional donations,” he said.

“There's a minimum delivery charge [for

fuel]. You have to order so much for it to be delivered. We can always use additional funds just to be sure.”

Last year, the heat bank gave out nearly \$14,000 to help with hydro and heat emergencies, Jackson said, with another \$10,685 sourced by the charity for clients.

“Much of this amount came from the 4Cs of Haliburton County through our agreement with them to conduct intake and referrals,” she wrote in an email to the paper.

During that time, the charity helped 105 households consisting of 238 people.

“If things continue as they have been this winter, we will exceed those numbers this year,” Jackson said.

Thirty-three of those families were from Minden Hills, five from Algonquin Highlands, 28 from Dysart et al and 39 from Highlands East.

Fuel for Warmth is likewise bracing for an increase in clients, McNeil said.

“We forecast that the increase in demand for the entire winter will be roughly 15 per cent higher than last year, meaning we will be assisting about 250 individuals and families,” he said.

The money raised from the Christmas Shindig, more than \$23,000, will go to helping more clients than in previous years and to provide “roughly twice the amount of assistance to each client” than was given two years ago, he said.

To get in touch with Fuel for Warmth, go to www.fuelforwarmth.com or call 705-286-6838 (after hours: 705-489-3324 or 705-286-2990). The Heat Bank Haliburton County can be reached at www.heatbankhc.ca or call 705-306-0565.

Tuesday action for Red Hawks proves victorious

Congratulations to the senior Red Hawks basketball team on a hard-fought 35-30 victory over the Fenelon Falls Falcons. It took

the squad a couple of quarters to shake off the Christmas turkey, but we took care of business in the second half with solid defence that

helped us score 31 points in 16 minutes. Kyle Cooper led the charge with 11 points. Great composure from our second and third units.

Juniors edge out Falcons

The junior boys' basketball team pulled out a nail-biter against Fenelon Falls in a 26-25 win. Strong defensive play and patience on offence gave the Red Hawks the win, sweeping the Falcons in regular-season play

this year. Jaxson Gill was key on the boards, while Tevin Sullivan and Holden Dupret-Smith helped organize our offence and set up some great plays.

Brian Kim was especially active on the defensive end of the floor with tenacious defence that led to some key turnovers in the game. All the junior players should be very proud of their effort and support during the game.

Submitted by Judi Paul

SNOWSHOEING!

Friday January 26th : INTRO TO SNOWSHOEING!
11:00am-12:00pm
Meet at Scout Hall parking lot (behind the arena). No fee

Friday February 9th: HIKE SNOWDON PARK!
11:00am
Meet in the parking lot (off County Rd #1). No fee

Friday February 23rd : INTRO TO SNOWSHOEING!
11:00am-12:00pm
Meet at Scout Hall parking lot (behind the arena). No fee

Please note: All snowshoeing programs are dependent on the weather and snow conditions. Snowshoes and walking poles will be available. For more info please call Elisha at 705-286-2298 or eweiss@mindenhillsc.ca



APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



Laurie Johnson

Dr. Jenn Morrow Owner/Operator of Minden Animal Hospital is pleased to announce the appointment of Laurie Johnson to the new position of Practice Manager, Minden Animal Hospital.

Laurie brings over 20 years of management and customer service experience to this new position. Laurie is well known in this community after working and living here for 30 plus years.

“I am thrilled to be joining an organization where the top priority is excellent customer service” - Laurie

Minden Animal Hospital is a growing local business offering both traditional veterinary medicine as well as alternative therapies such as Acupuncture and Laser Therapy.



Sleep-out to raise money for health

DORSET NEWS

Lee Ross
burgesslt@me.com

Back in February 2015 a group of six people, Collin Reaney, Lee Ross, Sarah Coombs, Deb Eichler, Karla MacKay and Niki Korda, built three quinzee huts at the Dorset Pavilion and spent the night. It might sound crazy to some, but in just two weeks they managed to raise over \$20,000 that went directly to the Dorset Health Hub which opened the following fall. The sleep out took place on the Saturday of the Dorset Snowball Winter Carnival and during the day a booth was set up to answer questions and collect donations. The group, as well as some other locals, sat around a bonfire, talked and enjoyed coffee thanks to Paul at Trading Bay Dining Co. They had access to the Dorset Recreation Centre to use the washrooms and warm up if need be.

Sunday morning was an early one, and Kelvin and Deb Johnson from the Moose B&B brought over coffee and fresh muf-

fins, exactly what they needed after a night of sleeping in the snow. After everything was cleaned up the group gathered at Penny McEachern's house where Andy McEachern made them a warm breakfast and lots more coffee was consumed. When asked if they would do it again, most were on the fence, but the \$20,000 they raised in such a short period of time was absolutely worth sleeping outside in February.

This year on Saturday, Feb. 17, the Saturday of Snowball, another group (including Collin Reaney, Lee Ross and Karla MacKay from three years ago) will be sleeping out to try and raise even more money. This year the proceeds will be divided between the Dorset Health Hub and the Huntsville Hospital Foundation. Here's hoping we get a bunch more snow so we can accommodate all of these quinzee huts!

If you'd like to donate you can do so by visiting: www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/dorset-community-partnership-fund/p2p/2018-deepfreezewintercampout/.

Happy birthday to Samantha Black, Shirley Brown, Madison Allore and Dave Haley. Happy anniversary to Rick and Doris Nash. For birthdays and submissions, please send them to burgesslt@me.com.



Back in February 2015 a group of six people, Collin Reaney, Lee Ross, Sarah Coombs, Deb Eichler, Karla MacKay and Niki Korda, built three quinzee huts at the Dorset Pavilion and spent the night. They managed to raise over \$20,000 that went directly to the Dorset Health Hub

Bowling Scores

Tuesday Afternoon Bowling League Jan. 9

Men

High Average Claude Cote 222
High Single Ken Thompson 281
High Single H/C Ken Thompson 303
High Triple Ken Thompson 634
High Triple H/C Nick Biljetina 744

Women

High Average Chris Cote 199
High Single Chris Cote 207
High Single H/C Chris Cote 228
High Triple Chris Cote 608
High Triple H/C Chris Cote 671

Fast Lane Bowling Scores for Friday, Jan. 12

Ladies

High average Ren Higgins 172

High single Ren Higgins 207
High triple Ren Higgins 581
High single hcp Ren Higgins 250
High triple hcp Ren Higgins 710
Men
High average Rick West 211
High single Ken Thompson 262
High triple Jim Griffith 638
High single hcp Ken Thompson 284
High triple hcp Jim Griffith 776

Red Wolves Bowling Scores
Alyssa Whitaker 189,
Andrea Austin 168,
Lisa Burk 165,
Skylar Pratt 156,
Emily Boccitto 143,
Jason Kitchener 141

Snowmobiling safety tips

The OPP share the following safety tips for snowmobilers:

- Drivers and passengers must always wear a snowmobile helmet that meets the standards approved for motorcycle helmets, with the chin strap secured.
- Obey speed limits and road/trail signs and always drive within your ability.
- Reduce your speed when driving at night (don't out drive your headlights) and watch out for fences, guide wires and other objects that are more difficult to spot out at night. Wear reflective clothing so that you are more visible to others.
- Know your local bylaws. Some prohibit snowmobiles from being operated on boulevards and sidewalks and have restricted hours of nightly operation.
- Avoid driving on frozen lakes and rivers. If it can't be avoided, check ice conditions beforehand, wear a floater suit and carry ice picks and make sure they are accessible. No ice is safe ice.
- Never travel alone and tell someone

-Submitted

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MINOR HOCKEY

Bantam girls win silver

The Canadian Tire/Parkview Dental Bantam Girls Jets team brought home silver in the 22nd annual Orillia Girls Hockey Tournament.

The girls faced some tough opponents throughout the weekend and persevered through some ups and downs to bring home some hardware.

They played their first game Friday, early afternoon and were defeated by the North Bay Ice Boltz 3-1. The lone goal for the Jets was scored by Mackenzie Hudder who received a pass from Beth Brownlee. Hudder was able to skate through the rivals defence and shoot the puck to the back of the net.

Friday evening, the team faced Temiskaming Shores and despite all of their hard work and efforts lost 3-0.

Saturday afternoon, the team hit the ice determined to shake off their previous losses and displayed their skills ranging from speed, positional play and defensive control. The pay off was a win 3-0 against St. Thomas. Haley Goulet scored two with assists from Hannah McMann and Kennedy Croskery. Beth Brownlee scored the third assisted by Jaylin Frost.

Saturday evenings semi final game once again saw the Jets face the Ice Boltz. Their loss to the team Friday was one they did not want repeated. The game saw both teams exchanging opportunities from end to end throughout the game. By the end of the third the game was tied 0-0. The

crowd was on the edge of their seats as they watched the game go into a nail biter shootout. Goulet secured the first shootout goal and Brownlee the second.

North Bay was unable to put any shots past the Jets netminder Bella Smolen who shut them down ensuring the win for the Jets.

The finals on Sunday saw the Jets face the top placed and strong team of Temiskaming Shores. The team worked extremely hard, played with confidence and never gave up throughout the game.

Despite increasing their level of play, fierce determination and excellent teamwork the Jets fell to their rivals 2-0.

Bella Smolen did a fabulous job in net and made many phenomenal saves throughout the tournament adding to the team's success. Hold your heads high, girls, you faced some tough competitors and should be proud of winning silver. You never gave up and of that we are proud.

Submitted by Linda Goulet

Peewees await first round of playoffs

On Saturday, Jan. 13, the JoAnne Sharpley's Source for Sports Haliburton Family Medical Centre Peewees headed to Parry Sound to play in the MPS tournament. The Peewees played the Huntsville Otters in their first game and despite trying everything they could the Storm fell 5-0. The Storm faced the South Muskoka Bears in their second game. The Storm

opened the scoring with a goal by Gage Hutchinson assisted by Austin Boylan. The Bears tied it up but the Storm scored two more to take the lead 3-1. Goals scored by Sawyer Boutin assisted by Kyan Hall and Austin Boylan assisted by Hutchinson and Kaine Brannigan. The Bears scored two in the second to tie it up at 3-3 to head to the third. The Bears scored first in the third but the Storm scored two more goals scored by Hutchinson unassisted and Brannigan assisted by Evan Armstrong and Avery Degeer. The Bears scored with 57 seconds left in the third to take the game to three-on-three overtime. Despite playing very hard the Storm fell short and lost 6-5. The Storm played the Parry Sound Shamrocks the third game of the day the Storm battled hard but just did not have the luck in their favour and lost 6-0. The Storm had to face the first place Parry Sound Shamrocks on Sunday the Shamrocks were on the board first but the Storm came back and scored two goals scored by Hutchinson assisted by Zander Upton and Degeer and Boutin unassisted to take the lead the Shamrocks scored two in the second to take the lead 3-2. The Storm managed to score one more in the third with Aiden Perrott putting it in the net assisted by Hall but the Shamrocks scored four more to take the game 7-3. Solid effort in the net by both goalies Damon Harriss and Taylor Consack. The Peewees are

awaiting the first round schedule for play-offs against the Durham Crusaders.

Submitted by Ron Hall

Bantam LL's win game against Shamrocks

The Total Site Services Bantam LL team hosted the Parry Sound Shamrocks on Saturday, Jan. 13. The game started off with a bad bounce and saw the Shamrocks on the board first. To follow that up was a beautiful shot from Tyler Martin tying up the game. The rest of the period saw a lot of near misses for the Shamrocks but because Darian Maddock's hand eye coordination was spot on, we remained in a 1-1 tie. Starting the second Cody Martin had a nice slow motion goal assisted by Hunter Winder and Nick Phippen. Next was a nice shot by Nick assisted by Tyler making the score 3-1 for the Storm. Cody quickly followed that up with another as did Nick and the Storm was now leading 5-1. Hayley Boylan had an exceptional game, steamrolling and stealing pucks from the Shamrocks' sticks, and Kiera Casey guarded that blue line like the Crown Jewels and wasn't afraid to go after that puck or show a little elbow when needed. The game ended with two more goals and some amazing passing plays. Tyler to Nick allowing Cody a hat trick and then Nick to Kolby McGovern allowing Curtis Mulock a nice



COUNTY OF HALIBURTON LAND DIVISION COMMITTEE NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CONSENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 53(5)(a) of the Planning Act and Section 3, O.Reg. 197/96, as amended, that the following Applications for Consent have been submitted to the Haliburton County Land Division Committee, the consent granting authority in these matters.

AND FURTHER THAT at its meeting to be held **Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Administration Building, County of Haliburton Office, 11 Newcastle Street, Minden, Ontario, this Application for Consent will be heard by the Land Division Committee:

1. File No. H-041/17
Applicant: Mark Donald and Karen Darlene Ford
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 5, Concession 4, Geographic Township of Stanhope, Now in the Township of Algonquin Highlands
Nature of the Application: Lot Addition
2. File No. H-042/17
Applicant: Charles James and Sharon Walker
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 4 & 5, Concession 3 & 4, Geographic Township of Stanhope, Now in the Township of Algonquin Highlands
Nature of the Application: Lot Addition
3. File No. H-044/17
Applicant: Janice MacDonald
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 17, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Sherborne, Now in the Township of Algonquin Highlands
Nature of the Application: Lot Addition
4. File No. H-045/17
Applicant: Janice MacDonald
Location of the Property: Pt Lot 17, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Sherborne, Now in the Township of Algonquin Highlands
Nature of the Application: Lot Addition

Additional information regarding any of the above-noted applications is available for public inspection at the Land Division Office by appointment during regular business hours, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

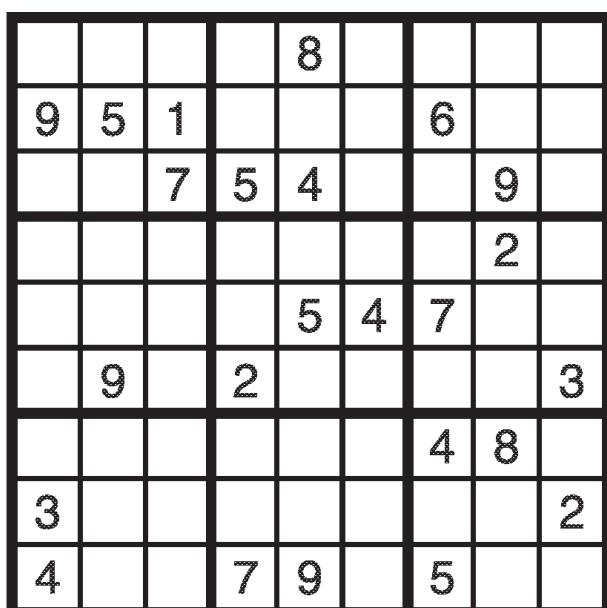
If a person or public body that files an appeal of a decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent does not make written submissions to the Land Division Committee before it gives or refuses to give a provisional consent, the Ontario Municipal Board may dismiss the appeal.

If you wish to be notified of the decision of the Land Division Committee in respect of the proposed consent, you must make a written request to the undersigned.

Dated at the Township of Minden Hills this 18th day of January, 2018.

Lisa Gillan
Secretary-Treasurer
Haliburton County Land Division Committee
11 Newcastle Street
P. O. Box 399
Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0
Telephone: (705) 286-1333
or 1-866-886-8815, Ext. 248
Fax: (705) 286-4829
E-mail: lgillan@county.haliburton.on.ca

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Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 30

MINOR HOCKEY

goal and another win for the Total Site Services Bantam LL team.

Submitted by Kathy Martin

Bears weather Atom A Storm

The Cottage Country Building Supplies/Ridgewood Ford Highland Storm Atom A's hosted the Bracebridge Bears at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena on Saturday, Jan. 13.

Both the Bracebridge Bears and the Highland Storm came out for a win. The first two periods were both teams trying to get a goal. The game remained scoreless until with nine minutes left the Bracebridge Bears scored a power play goal. However the Storm were not giving up that easy, because two minutes later Addison Carr scored on a breakaway and then scored again on an awesome pass from Austin Latanville, making this the final score of 2-1 Storm win.

On Sunday, Jan. 14, the Atom A's travelled to Gravenhurst to face the Bracebridge Bears.

The Bears scored one in the middle of the first and another at the beginning of

the second. Both teams continued battling until finally Brechin Johnston picked up the puck off the red line and skated down and fired it in the net putting the Storm on the scoreboard. But the Bears wanted that win and right at the beginning of the third period they scored their third goal. Storm kept fighting to get another goal keeping it in the Bears end and battling and then Addison Carr shot, Austin Latanville snagged the rebound and put it past the goalie. The Storm had eight minutes to tie the game, they tried very hard but unfortunately the Storm could not score the tying goal but they did put up a good fight. The final score was 3-2.

The next game is their first playoff game at the A.J. LaRue Arena at 2 p.m. versus the Durham Crusaders.

Submitted by Amber Card

Atom 1's beat out Atom 2's

On Saturday, Jan. 13, Haliburton's two Atom teams, Pharmasave Atom 1 and TD Bank Atom 2 played in a much anticipated game against each other.

In the first period Atom 1 started off the scoring with an unassisted goal by Daniel Stephen but Atom 2 player Owen Sisson answered back assisted by Eric Mueller and Tobi Posti.

During the second period, Atom 1 scored twice, first goal by Haiden Bird assisted by Daniel Stephen and Logan Reid followed by an unassisted goal by Lara Gallant.

In the nail biting third period the battle began with Atom 1's Gallant scoring unassisted. Atom 2 answered back with a goal by Sisson assisted by Mueller and Olivia Gruppe. Seconds later Atom 2's Ethan Thomas scored again unassisted. Atom 1 came back with a goal by Stephen assisted by Logan Reid and Bird. Followed by another Atom 1 goal unassisted by Bird.

Reid scored another goal unassisted for Atom 1 and Thomas scored his hat trick for a final score of Pharmasave, 7, TD Bank, 5. Big Congrats to Pharmasave's player of the game, Haiden Bird and TD Bank's player of the game Ethan Thomas.

Submitted by Chris McMartin

Midget girls compete in Orillia tournament

The Bancroft IDA/Red Eagle Family Campground Midget girls Jets hockey team travelled to Orillia this past weekend for the Hawks 22nd annual hockey tournament. Although short benched due to our captain being injured going into the tournament, the girls battled hard on Friday winning both games, 2-1 against Orillia, and 4-0 against Lindsay. Of course they left some energy to enjoy a bye on Saturday to enjoy some shopping and bowling. They came back Sunday morning to win the quarter finals against the host team 1-0 and having to face Keene in the semi-finals. The girls lost their energy early in the game and couldn't regroup losing 3-1. The goals scored this weekend were by Funk(3), Burnett(2), Martin (1) O'Connor (1) and Shpikula (1). The Jets have two away games next weekend to finish off the regular season.

Submitted by Lysane Burnett

see page 23

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Year Round Service

UPCOMING Community Events

Basic Beginner Line Dancing

When: Thursday mornings, 10 to 11 a.m. starting Jan. 18 for a 10 week course

Where: Stanhope Firefighters' Community Hall
Learn the basic line dancing steps and how to put them together to enjoy line dancing and increase your activity level. Good for the body and the mind!

This is a 10 week course starting on Jan. 18 and requires preregistration. Course Cost: \$50

Contact: Jacqui, ClanceLineDance@gmail.com

Therapeutic Touch® Level 2 Workshop

When: Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Continue or refresh your Therapeutic Touch journey! Learn to recognize and understand the meaning of imbalances in the energy field and methods of rebalancing the field to promote health and well being.

Level 2 provides an in depth look at the process and its efficacy with hands on practice.

Contact: Susan Keith at 705-457-3981 or email: ch.concepts@sympatico.ca

Haliburton County Historical Society

Change of date for January meeting that was published in the Winter Guide 2018

Change from Thursday January 25 to Tuesday January 23
Where: Haliburton Museum, 1:30 PM
Speaker: Jim Mitchell

Topic: Part 2 of the History of Canning Lake
Haliburton: Sexual Health Clinic

When: Wednesday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Discovery Days 2018

Paws, Poop and Other Animal Clues!

When: Saturday, Feb. 3, 10 a.m. to noon

Where: Abbey Gardens

Our fun exploration of animal tracks, scat and signs will begin inside the Abbey Gardens Gathering Place. Come and learn about different critter poop (scat) found in Haliburton County and the stories it can tell. We will have fun matching poop to paws and will even be rolling out some sample critter poop from our special dough to enjoy as a tasty treat! If conditions allow, we will venture outside into the nearby forest using our wildlife sleuthing skills to find clues that animals have left behind. Dress for the weather. Please register as there are limited spaces and craft supplies for this fun workshop. Locate the registration link under Events tab at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca Funded in part by TD Friends of the Environment.

Admission by donation.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust Discovery Days 2018

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6	9	4	2	1	7	8	5	3
5	6	9	1	2	3	4	8	7
3	7	8	4	6	5	9	1	2
4	1	2	7	9	8	5	3	6

Festival organizers want businesses on bandwagon

by JENN WATT

Editor

Visitors to this year's Bluegrass in the Highlands Winter Festival will be met with the warm glow of a campfire, complete with lawn chairs, as they walk in the front lobby of Pinestone Resort and Conference Centre.

It may be cold outside – the festival is Feb. 23 and 24 – and the fire might be artificial, but the warmth of the bluegrass community is real, says organizers Sue Gallant and Lynda Weir.

"It's a very relaxed atmosphere," says Weir. "What [visitors] can expect is good music, a good time."

This is the second year for the winter bluegrass weekend, an event conceived of by fans of the music and held during a time when there are fewer events planned in Haliburton County.

The music starts on Friday evening, Feb. 23, with a program designed to bring out the local population for a night of bluegrass, country and Celtic tunes.

"On Friday night this year we're having a mixed program, which will have classic country and down east tunes performed by Highlands Trio and Celtic music being performed by Celtic Jam. We will also have some of the bluegrass bands playing as well," says Weir.

Cost to attend Friday is \$35.

On Saturday, the schedule features "pure bluegrass" all day with music performed by Concession 23, Maple Hill, Sweetgrass, Hard Ryde, Switchback and Old Tradition. Weekend pass rates are \$70 (advance tickets) or \$75 at the door.

Hosting the event is a passion project for Gallant and Weir, who are paying the bills through ticket sales and sponsorships. The pair say help from the business community is important in allowing the event to continue.

"When you first start, unless you can get a heavy duty sponsor or people that are going to donate hundreds of thousands of dollars, you're starting with nothing, which is what we started with last year," Weir says.

So far, two businesses have signed on as bronze sponsors, Walkers Home Hardware and Abbey Gardens.

They challenge other local businesses to do the same, noting that their event brings visitors to the Highlands and does not depend on weather.

To sponsor the event or buy tickets to attend, contact Lynda Weir at 705-447-2348 or email bluegrassinthehighlands@gmail.com. Sue Gallant can be contacted at 705-854-1200. Tickets are also available at Pinestone and Canoe FM or at the door. Weekend passes are \$70 in advance or \$75 at the door, Friday night tickets are \$35 and Saturday night are \$30. An all-day Saturday pass is \$45.

Resistance builds strength

Resistance training is any form of exercise that causes a muscle or a group of muscles to contract against an external resistance with the goal of increasing strength, tone, and muscular endurance. That external resistance can be anything. Weights are the most obvious because when we think of working out to get stronger we think of lifting weights. Anything counts. That includes your own body weight, exercise bands, cans of stewed tomato, the cat, or anything else you can think of. The important thing is that resistance (also known as strength or weight) training needs to be part of a regular fitness routine.

I believe that the more we move our bodies in various directions/patterns the better life is. I do a lot of body weight exercises, but I use weights from time-to-time. I prefer dumbbells to the other choices such as barbells or even weight machines. Using dumbbells allows our arms to work independently of each other. This means the strong side can't compensate for the weaker side. Fitness is all about identifying and strengthens weaknesses. The only way to do that is create safe challenges that bring the imbalances to the

forefront.

Here's a little experiment for you to try:

Grab two items of equal weight. Two cans of something from your pantry works.

Stand in front of a mirror with an item in each hand.

Lift your arms up and in front of you so they are parallel with the floor. Your palms are facing down.

Look in the mirror, and notice if one arm is lower than the other.

Look at your arms. Is one shaking and unsteady?

Does one arm tire before the other?

Identifying a weakness can be that easy. The rule is to always focus on the weaker side. If the weaker side (leg, arm) can do 10 repetitions of an exercise then that is what the strong side should do. The goal is symmetry, and that's how we get there.

What is happening at a cellular level is that the resistance training is causing microscopic tears in the muscle fibres. When we sleep the tears are repaired and made stronger in anticipation that we will need this new amount of strength on a regular basis. The body is brilliant. The important thing is to not overdo the workouts, and to rest in-between so that the body can do its work.

It doesn't matter which method of resistance training that you choose, just choose something. We lose muscle mass as we age. Doing resistance training slows that loss.

How about grabbing a couple of cans of beans and doing some overhead shoulder presses?

Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal trainer and spinning instructor. She is one of the founders of The Point for Fitness: www.thepointforfitness.com.



NOTICE Special Meeting of Council

A Special Meeting of Council will be held on

Thursday, January 25, 2018
commencing at 9:00 a.m.

in the Council Chambers at 1123 North Shore Road to conduct a strategic visioning session.

Matt Gower

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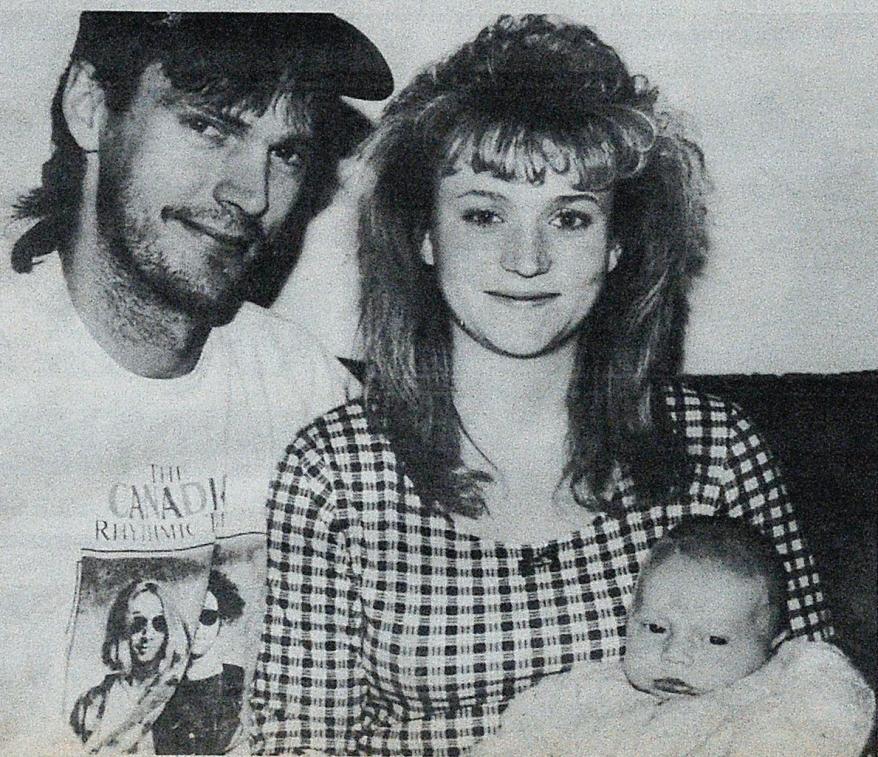
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Monday, January 16, 1995



Minden welcomed its newest resident early this year. Jordan William Howe increased the population by one when he was born January 3 at 9 p.m., at Civic Hospital in Peterborough. Weighing in at 8 lb, 7 oz., Jordan is the son of Jeff Howe and Tracey Farrell of Minden. Jordan is a brother to Brittany, the first baby born in Haliburton County arrived January 13 at the Haliburton Hospital. The new arrival is a daughter for Sandra Trumbull and Dan Pottier of Minden.

Health Board replacements chosen

by Jerry Grozelle

Two seasonal residents and one permanent resident of Haliburton County have been appointed to the Acting Health Services Board to replace the three people who resigned.

One of the seasonal residents is David Coulson, the consultant who co-ordinated the Coulson Report, a study of the health care system in the county. He is a cottager in the Gooderham area. The other seasonal representative on the committee is Luba Funston, a Miner's Bay

cottager.

Bill McAfee, also of Gooderham area, is the permanent resident who has been named to the committee.

Communiqué

A draft newsletter prepared by the Acting Health Services Board was presented to the members for input before the final product is printed and circulated. The newsletter will be circulated with both local newspapers and copies will also be placed in doctors' offices, the two hospitals and distributed through cottagers' associations.

The newsletter is intended to enlighten the public regarding the progress that has been made on the health services front from the board's perspective.

60+ applications

More than 60 resumes have been received from across Canada for the position of executive director of the Haliburton Health Services Board.

The recruitment committee for the position will include board members Stuart Baker, Doug

(more on page 4)

(more on page 4)

Legacy.

From humble beginnings in 1953, we have grown to become a recognized insurance brokerage in the Highlands. When my grandfather, Floyd Hall, started the brokerage

he focused on building relationships. That remains our objective to this day. Our clients typically know us by name, call us directly or personally visit our office to discuss their needs. We thank them for the trust they place in us. For those who don't know us, we welcome your inquiry.

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Heat-Line, a growing Canadian company located in Algonquin Highlands has new employment opportunities within the product assembly team.

Product assembly duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, assisting with manufacturing operations, shipping and receiving of raw materials/ product and inventory and product control.

Applicants with prior experience in the assembly and manufacturing industry would be ideal.

This position may require standing for long periods and heavy lifting.

This is a full time opportunity, applicants are asked to send their resume to matthew@heatline.com or to, 1095 Green Lake Road, Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1.

Only those selected for interviews will be contacted.

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Applicants must have sufficient accounting, senior financial management, or legal expertise to understand public sector accounting and auditing standards; must not be a current employee or officer of the Board or of any other district school board or school authority; and must not have a parent, child or spouse currently employed by the board.

Full posting: tldsb.ca/ac

Deadline for applications: 4:30 p.m. on February 15, 2018 to

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So when you speak of him to me
Its music to my ears.
He left behind an aching heart,
that loved him most sincere;
I never shall and never will,
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Rest in peace my love.

Charlene Watson

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THANKS
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and beautiful service.

To the ones that spoke at the
service. Hailey your poem
will always be with us and
Craig Crowe, You Nailed it!

To Leo Henry and Gord Kidd
your songs were beautiful, our
Mom would have loved
it and we are sure
she was smiling!

Our employers for their
patience and understanding,
the Lions Club for the
luncheon and to Barb and
Cheryl for the dinner when the
day was done.

Finally to Gordon Monk
Funeral Home for guiding us
during a very difficult time.

**"GONE BUT NEVER
FORGOTTEN,
LOVED ALWAYS"**

Debbie, Lori
and our families.

Don Hall

From Minden
**In loving memory of a wonderful
Husband, Father, Gramps and
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*"This day is remembered and quietly kept,
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For those we love don't go away,
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In Loving Memory of

Mary Jane McMullen (Hatton)

It is with deep sadness our family announces the sudden passing of Mary Jane McMullen on Thursday January 11, 2018 in her 81st year.

Mary Jane was the loved and cherished wife of Ross McMullen for more than fifty-eight years. Together they shared their joy for the outdoors, aviation, theatre, travel, friends and family. Mary Jane was deeply loved and admired by her daughters Beth (John), Lynne (Paul) and Jane (Steve) and grandchildren A.J., Trevor, Michaela, Evelyn, Ross and Elma. Mary Jane was born to wonderful parents, The Reverend Noble, "Hap", and Mrs. Evelyn Hatton. She is survived by her sister Elizabeth. Mary Jane led a full and active life. She was a dedicated member of her church community both in London and Haliburton. Mary Jane is remembered for her thoughtfulness and compassion as a volunteer with her daughters' schools, HighC, CGIT, The Girl Guides of Canada and Minden Community Food Bank. A graduate of history, Mary Jane was well read and a keen observer of the world. Her many personal interests also included, knitting, quilting, sewing, gardening, reading, baking, cheering on her grandchildren at their myriad of events and enjoying waterfront activities with her family. Mary Jane's bright, infectious smile and sense of humour will be forever missed. In lieu of flowers Mary Jane's family would appreciate donations to The Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0. Plans will be announced in the coming weeks for a remembrance service to be held in the future.

www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



Emily Skinner (nee Holley)
(Resident of Minden, Ontario)

Peacefully at Hyland Crest Nursing Home on Saturday evening, December 30, 2017 in her 85th year. Beloved wife of the late Cecil Skinner. Cherished daughter of the late James & Lillian Holley. Loving mother of David (Sharon). Predeceased by her sisters Gladys, Mamie and her brother Albert. Fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews. Emily worked for Toronto Dominion Bank in Toronto as a Manager of Human Resources for many years. She enjoyed teaching, leading Bible Study and taught Sunday School.

Visitation, Memorial Service & Reception

Friends are invited to call at ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH 19 Invergordon Avenue Minden, Ontario on Saturday morning, January 20, 2018 for a Memorial Service at 11 o'clock. Reception to follow in the Church Hall. As expressions of sympathy, donations to St. Paul's Anglican Church Minden would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209

www.communityfuneralhomes.com



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Tykes host the Rock

from page 17

On Jan. 13, the Tom Prentice and Sons Trucking Tykes hosted the Muskoka Rock at the S.G. Nesbitt arena in Minden. Vanek Logan scores the first goal of the game unassisted. Logan then set up by McCartney Saunders adds to the Storms' lead. Muskoka rallies back putting a goal on the scoreboard for them. Matthew Scheffee passes the puck to Logan, who puts it in the back of the net to get the hat trick. On a breakaway, three seconds left in the period, Jack Tomlinson hits the post. Easton Burk tucks Luke Gruppe's rebound that went behind the net into the open side of the net. Logan returning the favor to Saunders, sets him up for his first goal of the game. The goalpost then denies the shots of Evan Perrott, Logan and Mason Latanville. Saunders assisted by Latanville and Tomlinson scores with 20 seconds left in the second.

The third period starts with Gruppe skating back hard to catch a Muskoka player, taking the puck before reaching the Storms' goaltender Carter Braun. Off a face off won by Latanville, Tomlinson turns and shoots on net and the shot is redirected off a Muskoka player into the net. Latanville then scores the next goal of the game off a rebound with Logan and Tomlinson getting the assists. After Saunders' digs hard after the puck, Burk sneaks one through the five hole of the Rock's goalie. With the help of Latanville, Burk on a breakaway scores the final goal of the game, getting a hat trick. Final score, 10-1.

The Tykes travelled to Bobcaygeon to face the Sturgeon Lake Thunder-Blacks on Jan. 14. Vanek Logan gave the Storm their opening lead after carrying the puck from behind his own net down to the opposite end going top shelf on the Thunder's goaltender. The Thunder fought back, sneaking one in. Evan Perrott picked up the puck at red line and put it in the net through the five hole, with the assist going to Zack Prentice. Storm goalie Carter Braun held the lead, coming up big with a glove save. Perrott extended the lead further with the help of Luke Gruppe and Easton Burk. Carrying that momentum, Perrott finished out the first with a hat trick, assisted by Matthew Scheffee and Prentice. Mason Latanville passed to Logan who took a shot that bounced off the Thunder goaltender to the stick of Jack Tomlinson who put it in the open side of net. The Thunder were next to score but the Storm are determined to get one back and Logan got the puck to Gruppe who put it in the net. With just seconds left in the second, the Thunder goaltender came up big. Tomlinson scored next with the help of McCartney Saunders. Braun pulled off many big saves in the final minutes of the game, stopping multiple Thunder shots. The Storm overpowered the Thunder, taking the game 7-4.

Submitted by Jessica Tomlinson

Playoff Schedule

Round 1 of the Playoffs - best of five games.

Midgets vs Wasaga Beach Stars

Game 1: Sunday, Jan. 21 at 3:30 p.m. in Wasaga Beach

Bantam vs Durham Crusaders

Game 1: Friday, Jan. 19 at 8:45 p.m. in Oshawa at Iroquois Park

Peewee vs Durham Crusaders

Game 1: Sunday, Jan. 21 at 1:30 p.m. in Haliburton

Atom vs Durham Crusaders

Game 1: Saturday, Jan. 20 at 2 p.m. in Haliburton

Atom AE vs Huntsville Otters AE

Game 1: Saturday, Jan. 20 at 12:30 in Haliburton

Game 2: Sunday, Jan. 21 at 1:40 p.m. in Huntsville



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- Plus access The Trent Severn Waterway

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- Large screen rm, 2 bay garage & boathouse

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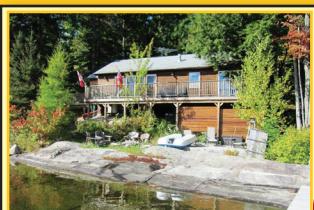
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